

April 1985

ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

COIN DIGEST



KURT R. KRUEGER



**Kurt R. Krueger
IS BUYING
Collections,
Estates,
Hoards,
& Singles
of**

**United States Coins,
Foreign Coins &
Currency,
National Currency,
Type Notes,
Tokens, Medals
and Oddments.**

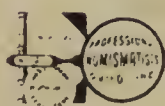
"You can capitalize on my diversified knowledge of numismatics. I am in constant need of material to supply the demand of my large clientele. I am willing to travel anywhere to view your holdings, if warranted. Whether you have a single item or a six-figure collection, I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss a confidential transaction with you."



Kurt R. Krueger

For Discriminating Collectors

**160 N. Washington Street
Iola, Wisconsin 54945
(715) 445-3845**



ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

President Sam Johnson, Sparta, Illinois
Vice President Erthel Rose, Arrowsmith, Illinois
Treasurer Mark Wieclaw, New Lenox, Illinois
Secretary LeRoy J. Kaczor, 1306 Hollycrest Drive,
Champaign, Illinois 61820

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Bob Ziesmer, Chairman Joliet, Illinois
Mike Goodrich Charleston, Illinois
Joe Wagoner Hoopeston, Illinois
William Salow Chillicothe, Illinois
James Erlenborn Peru, Illinois
Carroll E. Hilliard Winchester, Illinois
Ed Voss Joliet, Illinois

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Representative to ANA LeRoy J. Kaczor
Permanent Registrar Agent LeRoy J. Kaczor
Editors Dale Lukanich & Mark Wieclaw

ILLNA Digest - 175 W. Wood St., New Lenox, IL 60451

— AFFILIATED WITH —

American Numismatic Association
Central States Numismatic Association

INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF ILLINOIS
AS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION COIN DIGEST ADVERTISING RATES

	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
Page	\$25.00	\$27.00
1/2 Page	13.50	15.00
1/4 Page	8.00	8.90
1/8 Page	4.50	5.00

Contract Rates, 2 or more issues, 10% less

PERMANENT COIN CLUB SHOW DATES

SHOW CHAIRMAN: EDWARD VOSS

**Member Clubs: Please check this listing before scheduling
your next show! Send listings to Show Chairman EARLY!**

February — 2nd Sunday: Rantoul Coin Club, Rantoul

February — 4th Sunday: Gibson City Coin Club, Gibson City

March — 1st Sunday: Wat-Cha-Kee Coin Club, Watseka

March — 2nd weekend: Dupo Coin Club, Fairview Heights

March — 3rd Sunday: Freeport Coin Club, Freeport

April — 3rd weekend (two days): Mattoon Coin Club, Mattoon

April — Last Saturday: Corn Belt Coin Club, Bloomington

September — weekend after Labor Day: IL State Show in Peoria

September — Last Sunday: Fairfield

October — 1st Saturday: Corn Belt Coin Club, Bloomington

October — 2nd Sunday: Tri City Coin Club

1450 First Street, Moline, Illinois 61265

October — 3rd Sunday: Kankakee Coin Club, Kankakee

October — 3rd Sunday: McHenry County Coin Club, Crystal Lake

October — 4th Sunday: Hoopeston Coin Club, Hoopeston

November — 1st Sunday: Champaign-Urbana Coin Club, Urbana

November — 1st Sunday: Dixon Coin Club, Dixon

November — 1st Sunday: Centralia Coin Club, Centralia

November — 2nd Sunday: Aurora Coin Club, Aurora

EDITORIAL

by Dale Lukanich

Welcome to Spring Time in Illinois. After a long winter of “cabin fever” we are all ready to go to the first coin show of spring. Many things have happened since we last met. ILLNA has started a membership drive; the response has been quite good. For all of you who don’t know, ILLNA will give out a free bronze medal to the first 52 “new” members who sign up in 1985. So far we have signed up over 20 new members. That leaves 32 medals left to give out. One of the new members is a man that you may not have heard of before; he is Charles Fenwick. I met Charles last year at the Michigan State Fall Show. He is a fine gentleman and President of the Michigan State Numismatic Society. I was recently informed that Charles will be seeking a seat on the ANA Board of Governors. I am sure that he would appreciate your support. While I’m giving a little press to the ANA, Florence Schook has announced her candidacy for the office of President of ANA. Her young numismatic programs have helped many a youngster on the road to coin collecting, and I’m sure she will continue to work hard for numismatists in general. **LET’S GET GOING!!!**

The numismatists all over the state owe a big thank you to the state legislature for passing the bill to eliminate sales tax on coins, paper money, and bullion. You may not know this, but this tax bill saved many dealers’ sales which would have ended up out of state just to save on the state sales tax of 6% plus. While on the subject of thanking people, let’s not forget Rep. Frank Annunzio (D.-Ill.). On March 5th a voice vote was held and won approval of the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island commemorative coins. Even though in the past the U.S. Treasury has not had a great track record (i.e., the Bicentennial Proof Sets), we learn by our mistakes, and the Olympic Coins (in my opinion) were handled quite well.

It’s not too early to make plans for the “State Show.” This year the Illinois State Show will be held in Peoria on the 6th, 7th and 8th of September at the Continental Regency Hotel, located at 500 Hamilton Boulevard, Peoria, IL 61602. If you are involved in a local club, you will hear from us about the President’s Breakfast. This year we will also have an exhibitor’s breakfast, so get your coins in order and show them off to the rest of the state, have some fun, and meet some new friends.

You may not have noticed but something new is happening in ILLNA. It’s called “**EXCITEMENT.**” We are giving all our members the opportunity to catch it, so just hold out your hand and we’ll help you get aboard.

ILLNA COMMEMORATIVES

It is our hope to write a short article on each commemorative that ILLNA has issued. The 1973, '74, '75 and '84 issues have already been researched. Anyone with information on any other issues, please send this data to the "Digest."

LAST CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations are being sought for the offices of vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Also up for election will be six board positions (one-year and two-year terms). The election will take place in September at the state show.

This is the opportunity to help your organization. Don't procrastinate; **NOW** is the time to get involved.

CLUB COMPETITION

The club that brings in the most individual members to ILLNA will receive \$50. This competition will run from September 1 through August 31. The winning club will be announced at the state show. Membership applications are found elsewhere in the "Digest." Please make a copy of this for each member and state that the club is sponsoring them.

LITERARY AWARDS

A literary award will be given to the author of the best article to appear in the "Digest." This competition will run from September 1 through August 31, and the winner will be announced at the state show. If enough articles are submitted by junior members, they will have a separate contest.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

Do you know your ILLNA membership number? If not, check your membership card; you might be a winner. In each issue of the "Digest" we will list one person's membership number. If they identify themselves within 30 days, they receive a previous year's proof set. The winning number for this issue is #943.

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Each issue will contain a question pertaining to numismatics. The person that sends the correct answer* will receive a 1-oz. pure silver medallion issued by ILLNA. In case of more than one correct entry a drawing will be held to select the winner. The question is: In what year did the U.S. Government mint only one (1) twenty dollar gold piece.? Good luck!

*Within 30 days

KENOSHA'S S.S. WISCONSIN MEDALS

BY Fred J. Borgmann

In 1880 Capt. Albert E. Goodrich ordered the construction of three ships by the Detroit Drydock Company. One of those ships launched in 1881 at a cost of \$160,000 was the S.S. Wisconsin. Designed by Frank E. Kirby, the leading naval architect on the Great Lakes at the time, the S.S. Wisconsin even had special ice-breaking capabilities for winter sailing.

From 1881-1924 the Wisconsin changed ownership five times, endured five name changes, was nearly destroyed by fire and then completely rebuilt. Her final owner was the Goodrich Transportation Company (the original owners) and they restored the original name. The S.S. Wisconsin had come full circle.

On Sept. 17, 1929, the Wisconsin passed inspection by the Steamboat Inspection Service with flying colors; she was still a sound ship after 48 years of service. Late in the afternoon and evening of October 28, 1929, the ship was being loaded in Chicago while the second gale force storm within a week was hammering the entire western shore of Lake Michigan. The loading crew had taken special precautions because of the storm and nailed down special blocking to prevent the heavy cargo crates from breaking loose and sliding about inside the ship. One mile offshore the waves were cresting at over twenty feet. Waves which could literally pound a ship until her seams open. Those were the conditions that Capt. Morrison had to sail into that night.

As soon as the Wisconsin was beyond the breakwater the massive waves began crashing against the ship, often sending water over the top of the pilothouse. Below deck the blackgang was having problems too. Everything from coal and wheelbarrows to the crewmen themselves was sliding back and forth. At one in the morning Chief Engineer Buschmann was informed of ankle deep water in the firehold. Buschmann ordered the pumps started and informed the Capt. who already had another problem on his mind. The ship had a portside list which indicated that somewhere a large amount of cargo had shifted. Inspection of the cargo hold revealed a disaster. Tons of crated castings had broken loose, support beams were visibly bent, and some of the hull plates on the portside had been pushed out. The ship's engines were slowed to provide more steam for the pumps, but the water level still continued to rise and at 1:30 A.M., the first radio distress call was sent out.

An hour later the rising water had extinguished the fires leaving the ship powerless. By 4 A.M. the Kenosha-based Coast Guard rescue boats had arrived, but in the rough seas all that they could hope for was to be able to get close enough to attach rescue lines and get everyone off the doomed ship. At 4:34 A.M. after the order to abandon ship had been given, the Wisconsin's last radio message was sent, "Not enough boats for us all... ." (The radio went dead.) Due to the ship's strong list only the port lifeboats could be lowered, and they could only hold the few passengers and part of the crew. The rest had to try to swim to the circling Coast Guard boats.

At dawn Clinton Young saw a dangerously overloaded Coast Guard boat with a badly fouled propeller limp into port. Shouts told Young that there were more guys still in the water out there. Young and policeman Ray Gleason joined with the crew of the Chambers brothers tug and a few fishermen in a combined rescue mission of their own. As Young would say later, "We kept going after the live ones. Finally we didn't see any more so we pulled out of the wreckage." By this time one of Racine's Coast Guard boats had also joined the effort. At 7:10 A.M. Capt. Morrison went down with his ship. He was last seen shouting directions to the rescuers. Of the 74 or 75 people on board the Wisconsin, 59 survived due to the efforts of 32 valiant men who braved not only the elements but also a 400-foot circle of floating debris which could have easily crippled or sank their small craft.

The Kenosha Evening News of Nov. 5, 1929, reported that 32 men had been presented with framed certificates and that they would also be given gold medals which were to be provided by public subscription. The promised "gold" medals eventually materialized in bronze which was possibly a compromise version necessitated by another disaster which also took place on Oct. 29, 1929, the Great Stock Market Crash over on Wall Street.

MEDALS



The cross-shaped bronze medals were manufactured by the Greenduck Company of Chicago, measure 41.5mm across and are suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon. The scene on the obverse depicts the sinking S.S. Wisconsin with a crowded Coast Guard rescue boat in the foreground. All is within a lifesaver bearing the name "S.S. Wisconsin." Superimposed over the top of the lifesaver is an eagle with a laurel branch. On each of the arms are two crossed telescopes.

The legend on the reverse is "PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF KENOSHA WIS. IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF THE HEROIC SERVICES RENDERED IN THE RESCUE WORK DURING THE SINKING OF THE S.S. WISCONSIN OCT. 29, 1929."

The unnamed medals were issued in a jewelers presentation case to the following men:

Peter Adelson

Paul Berg

K.E. Carre

Clifford Chambers

Lloyd Chambers

Bernard Deveny

Ed Einison

Julian Elleson

Clarence Ferris

Morris Garrett

Ray Gleason

Stanley Gorwinski

Frederick Grapengeiser

Raymond Grasser

Capt. R.D. Hill

Adam Korvaliski

Capt. Alfred Kristofferson

Reuben LeClair

Howard Messenger

Capt. John A. Olander

William Pratton

Alfred Shellswick

Otto R. Shepard

Charles Sinkbiel

Clyde Sorenson

E.L. Sorenson

Mike Valentine

Adolph Wachter

Russell Watson

F.M. Worden

Clinton Young

Hugo T. Zahn

References:

Kenosha Evening News, Nov. 5, 1929

Kenosha News, Oct. 29, 1959, Dec. 5, 1962

Ghost Ships of the Great Lakes by Dwight Boyer



This is the S.S. Wisconsin circa 1900

25th Annual
SPRING
COIN SHOW
April 20-21, 1985

MEMBER



SATURDAY

10 am - 9 pm

SUNDAY

10 am - 5 pm

Elk's Club

So. Rt. 45, Mattoon, Illinois
(½ Mi. North of Exit 184, Rt. 57)

DEALER BOURSE
Hourly DOOR PRIZES
EXHIBITS
AUCTION — 7:00 PM, SAT.

Admission FREE
Sponsored by
THE MATTOON COIN CLUB

WILL COUNTY COIN CLUB

Twenty-Sixth Annual Show
Sunday, April 21, 1985

V.F.W. CANTIGNY POST - 367
Horseshoe Drive Joliet, IL

BOURSE OPENS 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

★ DOOR PRIZES HOURLY ★

DISPLAYS • BOURSE • TROPHIES
FREE PARKING — FREE ADMISSION
COIN AUCTION



**FOOD
AND
REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE**

Joseph Lepczyk

Numismatic Auctions

“Auctioning Fine Numismatic Properties Since 1972”

P.O. Box 751

East Lansing, MI 48823

Telephone: (517) 332-8581

CNA, ANA and MSNS LM

Subscriptions and Prices Realized

Prices realized are available approximately 45 days after the closing date at \$3 each or \$20 with an annual subscription (Europe and Latin America \$25; Africa, Asia and Oceania \$30).

Future Auctions

May 1985.

Midwest.

Sale will feature choice U.S., Canadian, World Crowns and Minors plus Numismatic Literature.
Deadline for consignments: March 18, 1985.

Fall 1985.

Midwest

Sale will feature choice U.S., Canadian and World Crowns and Minors.

November 29-30, 1985.

Dearborn, Michigan.

Sale to be held in conjunction with the Michigan State Numismatic Society's Annual Fall Convention. Sale will feature choice U.S., Canadian, Ancients and World Crowns and Minors.

Notice to Sellers

We are catalogers and auctioneers of fine numismatic properties — Ancient to Modern — with clients in 125 countries. We are especially concentrating on U.S. and Canadian coins for our upcoming auctions.

Consignments are accepted at any time for future sales. We would be pleased to hear from you to discuss early planning regarding the possible consignment of your material. We also buy collections outright. Estate collections are a specialty as we are equipped to auction an entire collection — not just the highlights.

ANA and CNA Life Member.

ARE YOUR NUMISMATIC COLLECTIONS “HIDDEN REAL GOOD” AT HOME? (HA)

by Samuel W. Johnson Jr. NLG

If I was a thief, I could steal many of your collections. You see, I know that many of the large deluxe coin albums, Lucite “boards,” and Franklin Mint (etc.) albums are too large to fit in most safe-deposit boxes. I also know that some of you don’t even have a safe-deposit box! You keep many of your collections “hidden real good” at home, don’t you?

Bluntly, there are millions of dollars worth of numismatic material that is currently “easy prey” for even a novice thief. What falls into this “waiting to be stolen” category is an astounding array of material. It nearly covers the entire numismatic spectrum, from half cents to \$20.00 gold!

I’ll just give you a few examples. They are: Bu and circulated sets of cents, nickels, dimes, quarters, Walking Liberty and Franklin halves, Morgan and Peace Dollars, silver bars and ingots, and an incredible variety of private (Franklin, etc.) Mint material. All of the above come in albums that are too large for most safe-deposit boxes, don’t they? Many of you have this material “hid at home,” don’tcha’!

Well, I can’t call you dummies, because I too have hidden things at home. (But I don’t anymore!) The author has even “out-hid himself” and had to search and serach to find the item(s) again. I’ll wager many of you have done the same thing, haven’t you?

Yeah, you and I think that our hiding places are “real good” and that “no-one would think of looking there!” Shoot, who are we trying to fool? The stunning thing is that thieves have all of our hiding places memorized. When it comes to finding hidden items in a house, thieves are just as intelligent as we are!

26 POPULAR HOME HIDING PLACES

1. Under the bed or mattress
2. Under a couch or chair
3. Under a coffee-table (or other furniture) that has a two or three-inch hollow space between them and the floor.
4. In the dirty clothes hamper or even the washing machine and dryer.
5. In a container in the freezer or refrigerator.
6. Taped under a table, chair, or other furniture.
7. Between the towels or sheets in the linen closet.
8. In a waterproof container in the commode water tank or sump-pump hole.
9. With-in the headboard of beds that have a small sliding “door,” which reveals a storage space.
10. On top of tall china cabinets or other tall furniture.
11. “Way in the back” of any drawer in the house.

12. In a box or wrapped in plastic within reach of the entry to your attic. (Perhaps covered with insulation, but within an arm's reach!)
13. Suspended somehow from a clothes hanger in the clothes closet, or in the pockets of hanging clothes.
14. Within a skillet or large pot. Of course, the lid is on!
15. Hidden behind cans of food in the lazy susan or cabinet.
16. Some material can be placed above a false ceiling. (Get a chair and flashlight - push up part of the ceiling and search with the flashlight)
17. Coin albums, etc. placed between books in your library.
18. Within the sheet metal heating/cooling vents.
19. Under rugs (a "good place" for single "type coins," etc. and currency)
20. Gone for the weekend? Hide your material under the trash in the kitchen trash container.
21. Within a stack of newspapers or magazines.
22. In the dirt of a potted plant. (Ice picks or screwdrivers would find this easily.)
23. In the garage or basement, but in many similar places as listed.
24. Under the sink.
25. On the window sill behind the curtain.
26. Behind the cushions of couches and chairs.

(Just because your favorite hiding place isn't listed, doesn't mean that an experienced thief won't find it!)

I'll wager that this list contained over 90% of your favorite hiding places, didn't it? Yeah, yeah, you see - if I was a thief, and had 45 minutes to search your home, I'd have found one (or more) of your collection(s). I see this "hiding scheme" as a continuing and ever growing problem in the numismatic world. It has become extremely serious!

Whether we like to admit it or not, friends, all of us who hide things are a little dumb. For years, we have thought that we could "get away with it." (Surprisingly, many of us have.) I certainly don't know why we think this way!

Virtually all of us know a colleague who has had material stolen. We know that, annually, there are several million home burglaries in our nation. All of us have read about \$100 to \$100,000 collections being stolen. Yet, we continue to hide our collections at home. Bluntly, our hidden collections would be "easy pickins" for a thief.

We certainly have been repeatedly warned. We have become complacent, a creature of habit, but we **MUST** change. Just think! Almost without exception, we are all known as "a coin collector." Few of us are home 24 hours a day 365 days a year.

Friends, two thieves searching together "room by room" in your house, could check the listed hiding places in a very short period of time! A majority of the time, they'd find a bonanza!

All kidding aside, thieves might be watching you now just waiting for “the right time to strike.” They’re waiting for you to go “out of town” on your long planned vacation. Then, one morning at 2 A.M., they’ll break a window in your house. Of course, their “look-out” accomplice will drive his noisy motorcycle down the street in front of your house while the glass is being broken. No-one will hear the glass breaking then.

“But, you have a dog,” you say! Your dog may bark a few times until the thieves throw him a round steak. If that doesn’t quiet him, several sprays from a can of mace will. Your “watchdog” will cower and whimper in a corner while they search. They may even kill your dog after the macing!

For that matter, thieves may not even wait until you go on that long planned vacation. They only need a half hour or 45 minutes (at the most) to search. Are you going to church Sunday morning or a dance on Saturday night? (Yeah, they’ve got you. That’s just what they’ve been waiting for!) Those five rolls of 40% Kennedy halves or the two Krugerrands that you have hidden behind the headboard of your bed will be gone when you return! So will that Franklin Mint set and “20th Century type set” (in a Lucite board) that you had under the couch!

If you have numismatic material hidden at home, there are only a few things that you can do. You must, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, rent a safe-deposit box at your local bank. (We all have “important papers,” family heirlooms, and photo albums that need to be in a safe-deposit box anyway!) “Lump everything together,” including your numismatic material, and place it in safety!

The larger safe-deposit boxes seem to be the most difficult to acquire. Obtain any size you can! If you have large albums, and cannot obtain a large box, you MUST take the coins (etc.) out of the albums and place them in the smaller box. Coin tubes, 2x2’s, or plastic flexible sleeves will work fine. Just transfer your material from the album into these. If your material is BU or proof, wear white gloves when handling. (Your collection(s) will now fit in even the smallest safe-deposit box with room to spare.)

You will also protect your collections from fire. Many years ago, I saw what was reportedly several hundred dollars worth of silver coins that had been in a fire. They were an ugly blackened mess and looked like a large “cow-chip.” (What if these coins had been your ten BU rolls of Morgan Dollars?)

The popular, large, bulky, (but attractive) “bookshelf albums” are obvious security risks for collectors. Album manufacturers certainly do not have this in mind. Even the name “bookshelf album” is suggestive that collectors should place them among books in their HOME library! Some even offer “free bookends!” How nice!

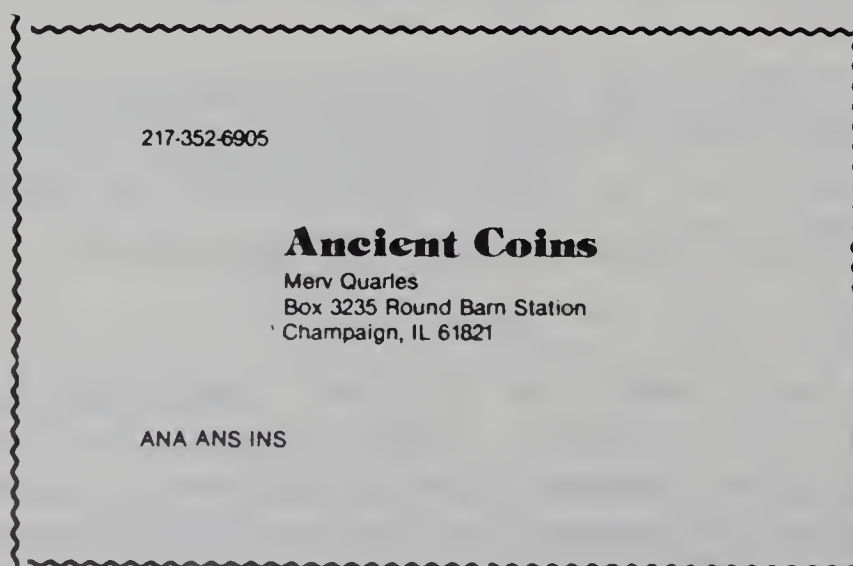
It cannot be denied. Large albums, (etc.) are a very serious numismatic problem, for thousands are sold each week! New types of albums and Lucite boards must be designed that will fit in smaller safe-deposit boxes! For the present, avoid acquiring large items if you don't have a large safe-deposit box! I suggest that collectors (who purchase sets of coins) have them placed in tubes or 2x2's for easy storage!

Friends, do not continue to be apathetic about hiding your numismatic material at home! Take action to protect yourself! If you choose to ignore this warning, that certainly is your prerogative.

But, just do one thing! Get your circulated set of Roosevelt dimes, or that XF (type) half cent, or your 4 piece type set of U.S. gold coins from your favorite hiding place and look at your material for a while. It may be the last time that you'll see it! The next person that sees them just might be a thief! From experience, I know that thieves can strike at any time of the day or night. Four years ago, my home was burglarized. Approximately \$200 worth of coins and cash were stolen, and subsequently never recovered. (It could have been much worse, because there were other valuable numismatic items within the house.) They were caught several months later.

The most stunning thing about this burglary is that it occurred at 1:15 - 1:30 in the afternoon! My neighbors were home! There is a school only 100 yards from my house! Children and teachers were in the playground! The thieves just nonchalantly walked up to my house (and right past all of these people) and "did their work." Afterwards they then, again, walked past all of these people.

The \$200 was not covered by insurance because of \$100 deductible. Many home insurance policies limit "coin and stamp losses" to \$1,000.00. The most important item, friends, is **NEVER UNDERESTIMATE A THIEF!** They found several of my hiding places and can find yours too!



Central Illinois
Numismatic Association's

36th Annual
Land of Lincoln

COIN SHOW
July 27 & 28, 1985

60 bourse tables

The Springfield
HILTON HOTEL
7th & Adams Street — Springfield, Illinois

DOORS OPEN TO PUBLIC

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. — 8:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

ADMISSION FREE

The ANA invites you to join the

1891 CLUB

in celebration of our 100th ANNIVERSARY

The American Numismatic Association will hold its 100th Anniversary Convention in Chicago in 1991. Our centennial can be celebrated with the ceremony it deserves, but only if we begin to plan now.

The Board of Governors foresaw this need and in 1982 established the 1891 Club to spearhead this project. The Club's purpose is to raise funds to underwrite the cost of special convention activities that otherwise could not be afforded.

In addition to coordinating and staging all centennial events, the 1891 Club will commission a suitable author to write a book detailing the history of the American Numismatic Association, something that has never been done and is long overdue.

Our 100th Anniversary Convention promises to be the most exciting event in ANA history. It will come only once. If you share our vision, we urge you to join.

Membership in the 1891 Club can be yours for a one-time donation of \$91. The benefits are many and will increase as the centennial approaches. Along with the personal satisfaction gained by lending your support to a good cause, you will receive the following:

- Membership card and number
- Membership pin
- Convention ribbon
- Convention events open only to 1891 Club members
- Specially-bound edition of the history of the ANA

The ANA also offers an installment plan for those who would like to make a contribution but prefer not to make a total payment of \$91. A down-payment of \$15 is requested, after which you will receive five monthly statements of \$18.91 each. When the final payment is made, your 1891 Club membership number will be issued.

The 1891 Club can only be as good as the support it receives. Your membership can make the difference.

(See next page for application)

COMPLETE THE APPLICATION BELOW
AND SEND YOUR DONATION TO

1891 CLUB
American Numismatic Association
P.O. Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

Type of Membership (check one):

☐ Individual

☐ Club

☐ Company

Name _____

ANA Number _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Representative _____

IF CLUB OR COMPANY APPLICATION

Method of Payment

☐ Installment plan

(\$15 down-payment, five monthly installments of \$18.91 each)

☐ Total payment enclosed (\$91)

☐ Check

☐ Money Order

☐ Master Card

☐ Visa

Account No. (All Digits)

Expiration Date of Card

Signature _____ Date _____

CLUB NEWS

ILLNA

It is with great pleasure that we announce the winners of last issue's "Numismatic Quiz" and "Membership Number" contest.

The Numismatic Quiz received several responses with Charles Fowler being the winner. Chuck correctly answered the question: Who was the designer of the Norse American Commemorative of 1925? The answer: James Earl Fraser.

Orville Christ recognized his membership number and for that he received a 1983 Proof set.

Several nominations have been received for this year's election of officers and board members. If you are interested in taking part, don't be shy. Send us your name and a short resume.

CHICAGO COIN CLUB

Two C.C.C. members won exhibit awards at this year's F.U.N. Show January 3-6 in Florida. Harry X. Boosel took first place honors in the foreign coin category, and Michael Brodsky received a first place award in the Junior category. Michael also placed first at the 1984 ILLNA State Show. In the last "Digest" it was incorrectly stated that Bill Grundy had won first place honors. Sorry!

C.C.C. member Thomas K. DeLorey has announced his candidacy for Seat #7 on the ANA board of governors.

A special 800th club meeting is being planned for later this year. Guest speakers, a banquet, and a special commemorative medal are being scheduled.

MATTOON COIN CLUB SHOW — APRIL 20 & 21, 1985

The Mattoon Coin Club will have its 25th annual show on Saturday, April 20 from 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Sunday, April 21 from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

The show will be held in the Elks Club, S. Route 45, Mattoon, IL (½ mile north of Exit 184, Interstate 57). Admission is free. There will be hourly door prizes.

A public auction will be held at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, featuring mostly U.S. and foreign coins. The Club promises some fine exhibits and a bourse of 25 coin and coin supply dealers.

WILL COUNTY COIN CLUB

The club's 26th annual show is going to be held on Sunday, April 21 (see full-page ad). Exhibitors are welcome.

Club President Mark Wieclaw will speak at the May meeting. The topic will be U.S. and foreign encased postage.

The second annual W.C.C.C. golf outing will take place in June.

ELGIN COIN CLUB

Does anyone know the new address of the Elgin Coin Club? If so, please forward it to the ILLNA "Digest."



We wish to pass on to our members the names of two members Les Bettey and Charles W. Fortney who have passed away recently. The board members of the Illinois Numismatic Association wish to express our sympathy to the families of the deceased members.

Charles (Chuck) Collier

Born June 7, 1924

Died January 21, 1985

He was a charter member of Hoopeston Coin Club, Past President and Treasurer. He collected U.S. and Canadian coins and stamps since 1950.

Member of ILLNA

*Member of American Numismatic Association
No. 102201*

ILLNA COIN CLUBS

Centralia Coin Club
928 N. Elm St.
Centralia, IL 62801

Fairfield Coin Club
Rte. 3
Fairfield, IL 62837

Central Illinois Numismatic Assoc.
1013 North Second St.
Springfield, IL 62702

Freeport Coin Club
1227 S. Armstrong Ave.
Freeport, IL 61032

Champaign-Urbana Coin Club
700 Dover Place
Champaign, IL 61820

Hilltop Coin Club
600 High
Gillespie, IL 62033

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

Hoopeston Coin Club
501 E. Main St., P.O. Box 234
Hoopeston, IL 60942

Dupo Coin Club
P.O. Box 1982
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Kankakee Coin Club
P.O. Box 150
Bradley, IL 60915

Elgin Coin Club

Lake County Coin Club
2210 Crescent Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60085

Mattoon Coin Club
P.O. Box 143
Mattoon, IL 61938

Schaumburg Numismatic Society
P.O. Box 94246
Schaumburg, IL 60194

McHenry County Coin Club
P.O. Box 271
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Soy City Coin Club Inc.
P.O. Box 862
Decatur, IL 62525

Mt. Vernon Coin Club
507 Halia Crest
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Tazewell Numismatic Society
P.O. Box 969
Pekin, IL 61555

Peoria District Coin Club
c/o Virginia's Coin Shop, Inc.
2139 N. Knoxville Ave.
Peoria, IL 61614

Tri-Cities Coin Club
P.O. Box 332
Moline, IL 61265

Rantoul Coin Club
Rantoul Public Library
Rantoul, IL 61866

Wat-Cha-Kee Coin Club
909 S. Fifth St.
Watseka, IL 60970

Rockford Area Coin Club
P.O. Box 1974
Rockford, IL 61110

Will County Coin Club
175 W. Wood St.
New Lenox, IL 60451

ILLNA MEDALLIONS OF 1974-75

by Mark Wieclaw

Since ILLNA was founded in 1959, several commemorative medallions have been issued. All of them have low mintages and are generally not easy to acquire. Because of the huge success of the 1973 medallions commemorating the State Show hosted by the Will County Coin Club (Joliet), it was decided that a medallion should be issued for the 1974 show also. Board member Bill Miller was commissioned to investigate the cost and to find a suitable manufacturer. After contacting several prospective suppliers, it was decided that Masterpiece Medallions of Claremont, California, offered the best package.

On July 15, 1974, a letter of acceptance was sent to Mr. G. Lee Kuntz of Masterpiece Medallions for three-hundred one-ounce silver medallions. Mr. Kuntz was responsible for designing the medallion based on the ILLNA logo supplied him and delivering them by August 31, 1974.

The cost of the medallions to ILLNA was \$1935 or \$6.45 each. A breakdown of this expense follows:

1 obverse die (ILLNA Design)	\$250.00
1 reverse die (convention words)	135.00
300 one-ounce fine silver medallions (4.25 ea.)	1275.00
300 striking and service charge (.75 ea.)	225.00
Set up costs	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1935.00

Once the dies were completed, a proof trial strike in lead was sent ILLNA for examination. For some reason the stars were left off the obverse die and didn't meet the board's approval. Mr. Kuntz made the necessary changes and sent five pewter trial strikes that were satisfactory. The pewter medallions looked exactly like those struck in silver and therefore the word "Copy" was stamped on the lower right corner of the reverse.

The silver medallions arrived in time for the State Show held in Decatur. Although not all were sold, it was decided to issue a medallion for the 1975 State Show to take place in Springfield. Mr. Kuntz was again asked to do the work using the same obverse die and creating a new reverse die. The number of medallions ordered for the 1975 State Show was 250 each of silver and bronze.

When Mr. Kurtz finished the reverse die, he did some work on the obverse die to give Miss Liberty more definition (the 1974 medallions seemed to look flat or weakly struck on the obverse). A proof lead trial strike was sent and approved.

To help keep costs down, ILLNA decided to furnish the silver to Masterpiece Medallions. A study was conducted of outside sources, and it was found that the least expensive price was .15 per ounce over spot. Vice-President, Larry Camp, then volunteered to sell 250 ounces of fine silver to ILLNA for spot price. This transaction was approved by the board, and the silver shipped to Mr. Kuntz.

The cost of the 1975 medallions was as follows:

1 1975 die (reverse)	\$150.00
250 fine silver striking service (.75 ea.)	187.50
250 golden bronze medallions (.39 ea.)	97.50
Set up costs	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL	\$485.00

No records are available to show what the cost of the silver to ILLNA was, but it was surely much less than if supplied by Masterpiece Medallions.

As was the case with the 1974 Medallions, the 1975 issue was not completely sold out at the State Show. ILLNA is still in possession of several 1974 and 1975 silver pieces and a lesser number of the bronze medallions.

Originally the silver pieces were sold by ILLNA for \$10.00 and the bronze specimens for \$1.00 each. The remainder of the ILLNA hoard is being disbursed slowly. At last year's State Show each exhibitor received a silver medallion, and for 1985 each new ILLNA member will receive a bronze medallion. Although the silver issues have relatively low mintage, they are unfortunately treated as bullion by most dealers and can be purchased for a small premium over spot when available.

A motion was made and approved that board member, Don Fisher, be given a pewter medallion and Bill Miller be given the 1975 lead trial strike. The lead trial error and the four remaining pewter trial medallions were to remain in the possession of ILLNA. In the late 1970's a burglary occurred in the Miller residence, and among the missing numismatic items were the lead and pewter trial strikes. These were not recovered.

In August, 1984, the author in an attempt to put together a complete set of ILLNA commemoratives placed a bid on some 1962 ILLNA medallions. These were offered by a West coast Canadian dealer who specializes in Canadian trade tokens. Although the bid was unsuccessful, the dealer sent a note recommending another dealer from Central Canada that specialized in Canadian and U.S. numismatic organization issues.

This effort was more successful in that the second Canadian dealer had a 1968 bronze medallion, three 1974 *aluminum* medallions, a 1975 bronze medallion, and two others dated 1974 and 1975 that were dark in color but of

unknown composition. The total lot of seven medallions was offered for \$28.00 Canadian. A check was sent in the amount of \$23.40 (20% less U.S. currency discount plus \$1.00 postage) and in late September, 1984, the medallions arrived.

With great curiosity, the author asked Bill Miller several questions about this new acquisition. It was now evident that these 1974-75 pieces were the medallions that disappeared several years earlier. Those thought to be aluminum were actually the pewter medallions (missing one from the four that were stolen).

Once it was determined that these were the missing medallions, a second letter to the Canadian dealer was sent hoping to trace the whereabouts of the fourth pewter medallion and how he had acquired the others. In his response it was mentioned that he had purchased the medallions earlier in the year at the Canadian Numismatic Association Convention. While sitting at a dealer's table looking through his inventory, a person approached the dealer and asked if he would be interested in purchasing any or all of the tokens or medals that he had. When the other dealer declined the offer he asked if he could examine them. He then picked out the ILLNA medallions along with a few other U.S. coin club tokens. Since it was a cash deal no receipt was written and no names were exchanged. It was noted that he paid the collector \$15.00 (Canadian) for the entire group of 15 pieces.

In April of 1982 a decision was made by the ILLNA board to donate the dies and one each of the 1974-75 medallions to the ANA museum. The ANA gladly accepted the donation and now collectors from around the world can view a part of ILLNA history.

What ever happened to the missing pewter medallions may never be known. How many people actually owned the other medallions from the time they were stolen until they were purchsed in September 1984 will always remain a mystery. What is certain is that the 1974 and 1975 ILLNA medallions do have an interesting history.

SPECIFICATIONS

Date	Composition	Weight	Size	Mintage
1974	Lead	32.3 gms.	39 mm.	1 known
1974	Pewter	19.5 gms.	39mm.	5 known
1974	Silver	31.1 gms.	39mm.	300
1975	Lead	31.7 gms.	39mm.	1 known
1975	Bronze	22.8 gms.	39mm.	250
1975	Silver	31.1 gms.	39mm.	250



Obverse - "no stars" lead trial error (L),
regular obverse "with stars" for 1974-75 medallions (R).



Reverse - regular reverse for 1974 medallions (L). Pewter trial strikes have the word "Copy" stamped in lower right corner.
Common reverse of all 1975 medallions (R).

The obverse design has been used as the official ILLNA logo since the organization's inception in 1959. It is based on the design of the Morgan silver dollar. Above Miss Liberty is the word "ILLNA," and below her "Founded 1959." Thirteen stars (six left side, seven right side) are also located on each medallion.

The legend on the reverse of the 1974 medallion reads "ILLNA State Convention - Sept. 6-8, 1974." The central area contains the words "Decatur, Illinois" with "one troy ounce .999 Fine Silver" located below.

On the 1975 silver medallion, ".999 F.S." is located on the edge of each piece. "ILLNA State Convention - Sept. 26-28, 1975" is the reverse legend with "Springfield, Illinois" in the center.



insty-prints[®]
THE WIZ OF THE PRINTING BIZ!

Dave Kaminskis, Manager

916 W. Jefferson
Joliet, Illinois 60435
725-6873

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

IN THE

ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASS'N

I HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ILL. N. A.
SUBJECT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Date:

Mr.
Mrs.
Miss

Name (Please Print)

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Date and Birth Year

Occupation

Numismatic Specialty

Signature of Applicant

List local Coin Club you are a member of.

Signature of Proposer

Check One Below:

CLUB APPLICATION ()

INDIVIDUAL APPLICATION ()

DUES RENEWAL ()

\$4.00 for NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and One Year DUES

\$3.00 for CURRENT DUES of old REGULAR MEMBER

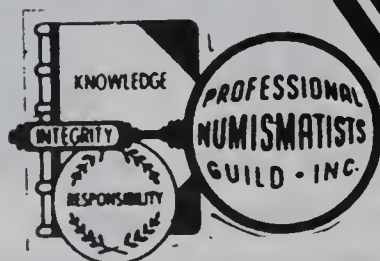
Complete form, with proper amount of Money (cash or check),
give to any ILL. N. A. Officer or Mail to the Secretary's Address

SIGN UP A COLLECTOR FRIEND

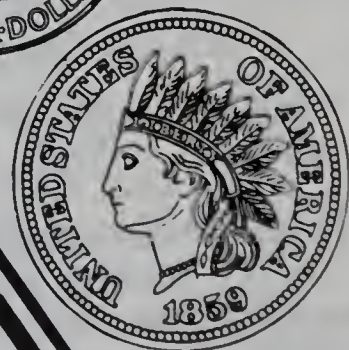
SIGN UP YOUR CLUB INTO ILL. N. A.

ILL. N. A. NEEDS YOU . . . YOU NEED ILL. N. A. !

STAMPS COINS SHELLS ETC.



#178



JEFFERSON
SQUARE
MALL
Joliet, Illinois

(815) 729-0262

We want to buy and will pay well for the Items listed below:

Silver Dollars - 1935 & before	Old Jewelry items
Half Dollars - 1964 & before	School Rings
Half Dollars - 1965 to 1970	Wedding Bands
Quarters - 1964 & before	Diamonds
Dimes - 1964 & before	Pocket Watches
Nickels - 1942 to 1945	Pocket Watch Chains
Buffalo Nickels	High Grade Wrist Watches
Cents - 1958 & before	Sterling Silver Items
Indian Cents	Silver Flatware
U.S. Currency - pre 1935	Silver Candlestick Holders
Coin Collections	Government Issue Proof Sets
Partial Coin Sets in albums	Government Issue Mint Sets
Foreign Coins	Gold Coins & Medals
Foreign Currency	Old Tokens
Canadian Coins - pre 1968	Souvenir Spoons
Franklin Mint Sets & Medals	Advertising Spoons
All Gold items	Pocket Knives
Single Stamps or Collections	World's Fair items
Certain Baseball Cards	Medals & Election Pins
Numismatic Books	Etc., Etc., Etc.

Thank you for reading this list. Please keep it for future reference.

STAMPS, COINS, AND SHELLS ETC. will again conduct an auction in conjunction with the Will County Coin Club annual show April 21st, 1985. For more information contact . . .

Harlan Berk
Joe Lyons

Steven J. Vesely
Dan Slabozeski

Members: PNG — ANA — ILLNA — CSNS — INS — MSNS

**STAMPS
COINS
SHELLS
ETC.**

**Illinois Numismatic Assoc.
175 W. Wood Street
New Lenox, IL 60451**